

VIA: AIR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. MGL-A 9889

CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division, M

DATE: 7 January 1952

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *elms*

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational

SPECIFIC— Developments re Bjela Legia Radio Station *N*

Reference: MGLA-8555

1. We informed you in referenced paper that a meeting was held between POB representatives and L of ZACACTUS at which time formal activation of the Bjela Legia for propaganda purposes by ZACACTUS was discussed. As you know, the radio is controlled by the group operating courier lines for USAGE as part of Developmental Project Number 2. This operation was given three months probationary period to prove itself, and having apparently succeeded in doing so within the allotted time, we are continuing our support, at least until such time as other instructions are received.

2. Coincidentally with the end of the trial period we were notified by L that he has received approval from ZACACTUS to undertake support of the radio and broadcasting personnel for the purpose of filling the propaganda vacuum in Slovakia.

3. Upon receiving notification of this development, a meeting was held between L and L on 3 January at which the following was brought out:

a. ZACACTUS will initially undertake support of the Bjela Legia radio in the form of a subsidy [for a period of two months] during which time they will observe the modus-operandi of the Bjela Legia group and attempt to assay the value of the broadcasts. [Continuance of the subsidy will be dependent on results of these studies.]

b. ZACACTUS does not wish to be involved with any direction of operations of the group, nor with logistical support other than financial. Secure housing of the radio proper will be provided through a ZACACTUS representative in Austria, or, if this proves impossible, rent will be paid for a house to be located by the Bjela Legia.

c. ZACACTUS desires only very general control of the broadcasts, which will take the form only of setting general tone. To accomplish this, ZACACTUS will monitor the broadcasts, and receive broadcast transcripts.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

~~DIST:~~

2 - FDM
1 - COS
1 - SFRG
1 - SOB

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

d Target date for resumption of Bjela Legia broadcasts is to be 15 January, dependent on results of meeting to be held between ZACACTUS/Bjela Legia representatives on 7 January.

4. To implement the above [] requested a meeting be arranged between himself, SLAA, SLAD and an interpreter, to take place in Salzburg on 7 January. [] to act simply as radio broadcast specialist of the same agency represented by USAGE, who as has been reported, is known to SLAA as an unnamed American. The conversation will be confined to financial requirements of the broadcasts and a general policy outline. The aspect of being blown to SLAA and SLAD was discussed with [], who still desires the meeting. No other interpreters being available who could logically attend this meeting, USAGE was suggested to arrange introduction to SLAA, security ramifications of meeting USAGE also being pointed out. [] also had no objections to meeting USAGE personally. Inasmuch as [] is posing as the radio specialist in the same agency as USAGE, SLAA would undoubtedly keep USAGE briefed on the conversations. POB also considered the security aspects of USAGE being known to [] and reached the conclusion that from our standpoint, no breach existed. The target date for commencement of the broadcasts left us insufficient time to refer this matter to Washington for decision.

5. [], using the cover name EDWARDS, will meet USAGE, who will use the cover name EISNER, in the lobby of the Oestereicher Hotel on 7 January, after which arrangements will be made to meet SLAA. We will report details on the conversations when received from []. We will probably also be kept fully briefed by USAGE.

[]

Wpd

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